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Serial Scope:

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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

NOV 7 1975

TO: John A. Mintz, Assistant Director
Legal Counsel Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation

M. K. FROM: Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
Special Counsel for Intelligence
Coordination

SUBJECT: Senate Select Committee Request

Attached is a letter from the Senate Select Committee requesting declassification of certain documents enclosed with that request. We forward them for your attention and appropriate action.

MDR 16
ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/26/ BY SP2 ALM/EHL
100

cc: Paul Daly



276-10397

276-10397

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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

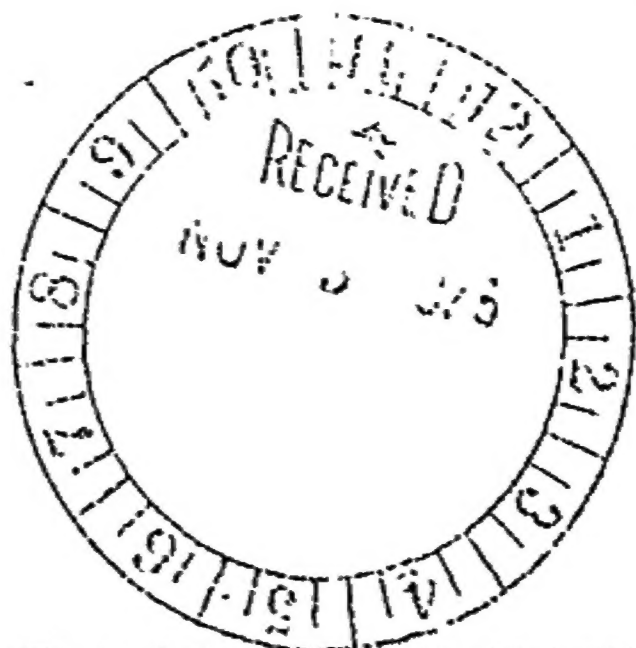
November 4, 1975

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr., Esq.
Special Counsel for Intelligence
Coordination
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mike:

Please have the enclosed documents as received by the Senate Select Committee, declassified for public hearings. They are as follows:

1. Excerpts from Former FBI Director Hoover's briefing of the National Security Council, presided over by the President, dated 11/6/58, pages 35-37.
COINTELPRO/CP
2. Excerpts from Former FBI Director Hoover's "off record" statements, as presented to the House Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, for fiscal years 1959 thru 1967.
ICP, KLAN
3. Letter from J. Edgar Hoover to the Honorable Robert Cutler dated May 8, 1958.
"
4. Memorandum from the Director FBI to the Attorney General dated May 8, 1958 and captioned Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C.
"
5. Letter from J. Edgar Hoover to the Honorable Dean Rusk dated January 10, 1961.
CP
6. Letter from J. Edgar Hoover to the Honorable Robert F. Kennedy dated January 10, 1961. This letter has attached to it a five page enclosure entitled Communist Party, USA, dated January 10, 1961.
CP



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ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/26/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Michael E. Shaheen, Jr.
November 4, 1975

Page 2

- (01) 10/15/75 PRO/KJL
7. Memorandum from the Director, FBI to the Attorney General dated September 2, 1965 and captioned Penetration and Disruption of Klan Organizations, Racial Matters.

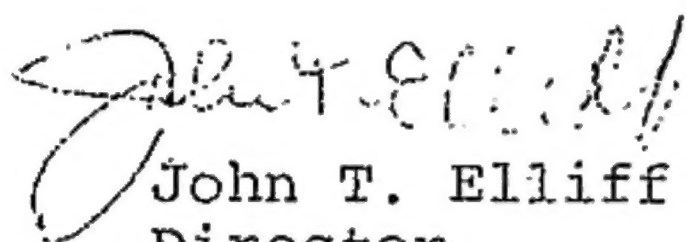
- Klan, via CONTELPRO
8. Letter from J. Edgar Hoover to the Honorable Marvin Watson dated September 2, 1965.

- CONTELPRO/KJL
9. Memorandum from the Attorney General Nicholas de B. Katzenbach for J. Edgar Hoover, Director Federal Bureau of Investigation, dated September 3, 1965 captioned your Memorandum of September 2, regarding penetration and disruption of Klan organizations.

10. Memorandum from the Director FBI to the Attorney General dated December 19, 1967 and captioned Ku Klux Klan Investigations, FBI accomplishments. This memorandum has attached to it a ten page enclosure entitled Ku Klux Klan Investigations FBI accomplishments, dated December 19, 1967.

- Klan
11. Memorandum from the Director, FBI, to the Attorney General dated September 17, 1969 and captioned Investigation of Klan Organizations, Racial Matters (Klan).

Sincerely,



John T. Elliff
Director

Domestic Intelligence Task Force

L. EXCERPT FROM FORMER FBI DIRECTOR HOOVER'S BRIEFING
OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
PRESIDED OVER BY THE PRESIDENT, DATED 11/6/53

MDR 16

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This document is prepared for
internal use only and is not to be
distributed outside the agency
to which it is addressed.

It is not for distribution
outside the agency by
any person.

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25

To counteract a resurgence of Communist Party influence in the
United States, we have a seventh program designed to intensify any confusion
and dissatisfaction among its members. During the past few years, this program

has been most effective. Selected informants were briefed and trained to raise controversial issues within the Party. In the process, many were able to advance themselves to higher positions. The Internal Revenue Service was furnished the names and addresses of Party functionaries who had been active in the underground apparatus. Based on this information, investigations were instituted in 262 possible income tax evasion cases. Anticommunist literature and simulated Party documents were mailed anonymously to carefully chosen members.

THIS SENTENCE DELETED AS IT TENDS TO IDENTIFY INFORMANTS INVOLVED IN SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES.

These programs are part of our over-all counterintelligence operations. They are specific answers to specific problems which have arisen within our investigative jurisdiction. You may have noticed, however, during my comments regarding communism and espionage, the constantly recurring

theme of passports. They present a problem in all of our counterintelligence work.

2

Director's :
Material
FY 1959

MDR-16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

FBI Countermeasures

Our investigations clearly show that the activities of the Communist Party-USA are aimed at penetrating every conceivable phase of cultural and industrial institutions for the purpose of creating and maintaining in readiness the most devastating Fifth Column the world has ever known.

BEGIN TOP SECRET - OFF THE RECORD

✓ To counteract these activities the FBI for years has had a planned intensive program designed to infiltrate, penetrate, disorganize and disrupt the Communist Party-USA.

[✓ Through informant coverage, which has penetrated the Communist Party on all levels, we have developed not only witnesses who can testify effectively when called upon but also sources who provide the Bureau with current plans and policies of this subversive conspiracy.]

The Bureau now has live, active informants operating in the security field. Our security informants furnish intelligence information to the FBI on a daily basis. We in turn disseminate this data to policymaking officials and to other Federal defense agencies having security responsibilities.

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Unauthorized Disclosure
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~~TOP SECRET~~

THE RECORD

✓ Our informant programs have been extremely successful. They have likewise worked to excellent advantage as a disruptive tactic. I should like to cite just one instance of their effectiveness. This case is typical of many others of a similar nature.

THIS PORTION DELETED AS IT TENDS TO
DIVULGE THE IDENTITY OF A HIGH LEVEL
INFORMANT.

Director's
Material
FY 1960

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/ELH
ON 10/26/00

FBI's Anti-Communist Counterintelligence Program

Another of our effective countermeasures is directed against the internal machinery of the Communist Party-USA:

Through the launching of ^{The} the FBI's anti-communist Counterintelligence Program, some Bureau security informants in 12 strategically located field offices have been carefully briefed to engage in controversial discussions with the Communist Party so as to promote dissension, factionalism and defections from the communist cause. This technique has been extremely successful from a disruptive standpoint.

Under another phase of this program, we have carefully selected 28 items of anti-communist propaganda and have anonymously mailed it to selected communists, carefully concealing the identity of the FBI as its source.

More than 2,800 copies of literature have been placed in the hands of active communists.

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

Recent developments have disclosed that Communist Party leaders are considerably concerned over this anonymous dissemination of literature to sources within its ranks, indicating clearly that this tactic is causing a great deal of intra-Party confusion.

*Excised AS IT TENDS TO REVEAL
IDENTITY OF HIGH LEVEL SOURCES*

[Although leaders of the Communist Party-USA are unable to determine the source of these pamphlets, key officials strongly suspect that factionalist elements within the Party itself may be responsible for much of the literature.]

Director's
Material
FY 1961

MDR-16
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ON 10/26/00

~~TOP SECRET~~ - OFF THE RECORD

FBI's Counterintelligence Program

(Note: The following data regarding FBI's Counterintelligence Program has been included pursuant to Director's specific instructions dated 8-26-59.)

The FBI's Counterintelligence Program is directed against the internal machinery of the Communist Party.

Background: This program was devised to promote dissension, factionalism and defections within the communist cause. We have bombarded Party members on a highly selective basis with anticommunist propaganda attacking such issues as anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, the Stalin crimes, the Soviet suppression of the Hungarian Revolution and other "weak spots" which could be adequately exploited for our purpose.

Recent developments have disclosed that Communist Party leaders are considerably concerned over this anonymous dissemination of literature to sources within its ranks, indicating clearly that this tactic has been extremely successful from a disruptive standpoint.

One of the best indications of its value and effectiveness comes directly from the mouth of the enemy.

Here are the facts:

~~TOP SECRET~~
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~~TOP SECRET~~ - OFF THE RECORD

Excised as it identifies

High Level Source.

[Among these documents was a report written by
attached to the Office of the Czech Military
Attache. who returned to Czechoslovakia in

—, had apparently written his report from information
furnished by —, a leading member of the

Communist Party-USA.]

THIS PORTION DELETED FOR REASONS
OF PRIVACY AS IT TENDS
TO REVEAL IDENTITY
OF A THIRD PARTY

[report, which was written in the Czech
language NAME OF TRANSLATOR.]

indicated that the tactics of the FBI in writing
letters to Party members who are known to be waivering, and
in using various Trotskyite groups to decompose the Party
internally, appeared to be the greatest danger to the Com-
munist Party-USA, and much more serious than the schism
inside the Party.

Director's
Material
FY 1963

DECLASSIFIED BY
ON 10/26/00

SP2 AHM/ETH

Counterintelligence Program

Since August, 1956, we have augmented our regular investigative operations against the Communist Party-USA with a "counterintelligence program" which involves the application of disruptive techniques and psychological warfare directed at discrediting and disrupting the operations of the Party, and causing disillusionment and defections within the communist ranks. The tangible results we are obtaining through these covert and extremely sensitive operations speak for themselves.

During the past year we have caused disruption at large Party meetings, rallies and press conferences through various techniques such as causing the last-minute cancellation of the rental of the hall, packing the audience with anti-communists, arranging adverse publicity in the press and making available embarrassing questions for friendly reporters to ask the Communist Party functionaries.

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

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~~TOP SECRET~~ - OFF THE RECORD

These operations are carried out in such a covert manner that the FBI is never involved. For example, it was through our initial efforts and planning that photographs of [redacted] were taken showing them entering the Soviet United Nations Delegation headquarters in New York City on the evening of November 6, 1961, to attend the Soviet celebration of the Bolshevik Revolution. The photographs and an accompanying article appeared in the (NAME OF A NEWSPAPER). This served to again clearly show the public the close relationship between the top leaders of the Communist Party-USA and officials of the Soviet Union.

We have increased factionalism and discord inside the Party through the use of carefully selected informants inside the Party who are in key positions to sow seeds of disunity. Another phase of the program is to expose and discredit communists who are secretly operating in legitimate organizations and employments, such as the Young Men's Christian Association, Boy Scouts, civic groups, and the like.

CH
In addition to these disruptive operations, we are reaching hundreds of long-time, active communists with psychological anticommunist literature anonymously sent to their homes. This literature points out true facts concerning anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, crimes committed during the Stalin era, the lack of democracy under communism and other pertinent disillusioning information. Many of the long-time communists we have reached in this manner have subsequently become inactive in the communist movement.

Director's
Material
FY 1966

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/ETL
ON 10/26/00

ATTACHED

Counterintelligence Action

In addition to following on the plans and activities of the Communist Party-USA, we have since 1956 carried on a sensitive program for the purpose of disrupting, exposing, discrediting and otherwise neutralizing the Communist Party-USA and related organizations.

An example of this activity is an operation conducted against *A Communist Party Functionary*

When arrived at the airport to conduct a secret two-week Party school for local youth, we arranged for him to be greeted by a representative of a local television station along with his cameraman. Obviously shocked, replied, "I have nothing to say!" When the television man persisted and asked if he was the Party's retorted in a fit of temper, "Go to hell!"

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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was followed into the airport terminal building and asked additional questions. In a rage, pushed the television reporter away and swung his brief case at the cameraman. These antics and dialogue were most effectively portrayed on a sound movie film later televised nationally. This publicity, which was completely organized as a counterintelligence effort, was most damaging and embarrassing to the communists.

Perhaps the most effective single blow ever dealt the organized communist movement has been accomplished under this program.

THIS PORTION DELETED AS IT TENDS
TO REVEAL A HIGHLY SENSITIVE TECHNIQUE.

Director's
Material
FY 1967

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/ELH
ON 10/26/00

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DECLASSIFIED

~~TOP SECRET - OFF THE RECORD~~
Counterintelligence Program

A highly specialized and aggressive program of counter-intelligence was initiated in 1956 for the purpose of exposing, disrupting, discrediting, and otherwise neutralizing the Communist Party-USA, and related organizations. Accumulated successes achieved in our efforts directed against the communists under this program, coupled with increased activity by the purveyors of racial hate, warranted the expansion of the program in the Fall of 1964 to include Klan- and hate-type organizations and their memberships. Counterintelligence action today is a valuable adjunct to investigative responsibilities and the techniques used complement our investigations. All information related to the targeted organizations; their leadership and members, which is developed from a variety of sources, is carefully reviewed for its potential for use under this program.

Examples of recent disrupting and neutralizing results achieved by this program are the following:

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The principal vehicle in which the Communist Party-USA is endeavoring to influence and recruit youth is the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America, which was spawned by the Party in San Francisco, California, in June, 1964. The DuBois Clubs projects itself as a "broad-based Socialist organization," while its dedicated communist leadership deviously operates behind the scenes in an effort to manipulate and influence the political climate on the Nation's campuses.


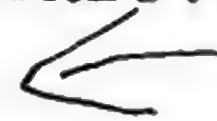
X

Utilizing public information, we have prepared the text and eye-catching format of a four-page leaflet entitled "Target...American Youth!" which thoroughly documents the communist origin, objectives, and control of this youth organization. This leaflet has been sponsored by the [redacted] and is in the process of being disseminated throughout the Nation with emphasis placed on its circulation in areas where the communists have made inroads among students.

EXHIBIT NO. 33 - Leaflet: "Target...
American Youth!"

Through a variety of techniques, we have been able to alert the owners of private meeting locations to the use of their premises by the Communist Party and its fronts. The communists rarely use their organizational titles in renting private halls, auditoriums, picnic grounds, and the like, for their rallies, propaganda, and fund-raising functions which they endeavor to project as civic or social in nature. Often an anonymous letter or directed publicity is sufficient to alert the management of such locations, and the communists must necessarily expend time and expense in efforts to find a new site for their meetings.

Although still in its formative stages, our program directed against hate organizations is beginning to achieve similar success. For example:



United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, had been receiving a pension from the Government on a

while actually being engaged in full-time employment. This information was furnished to the

which, following investigation, reduced the payment to 60%. This will serve to restrict his Klan activities which in effect were being subsidized. We also alerted the Internal Revenue Service to the fact that *KLAN OFFICIAL* did not file Federal income tax returns for the years 1959-1963.

We were successful in exposing and thwarting a "kickback" scheme being utilized by the United Klans of America in to help finance its activities. One member of the Klan was selling insurance to other Klan members and also depositing a generous portion of the premium funds in the Klan treasury. As a result of counterintelligence action taken, the insurance company cancelled all of the policies held by Klan members, thereby cutting off a sizeable amount of revenue for the Klan.

Another recent counterintelligence technique has already enabled us to increase our confidential informant coverage within the Klan. We were able to successfully duplicate a business card used by the Klan in contacting prospective members. We have made copies of the card available to individuals within our control who are using them to gain membership in the Klan.

~~SECRET~~

May 8, 1958

Honorable Robert Cutler
Special Assistant to the President
Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C.

MDR-16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

Dear General Cutler:

I thought the President and you would be interested in the following information.

In August of 1956, this Bureau initiated a program designed to promote disruption within the ranks of the Communist Party (CP), USA. In this connection, we have since capitalized on many situations that have developed within that organization. For example, following the denunciation of Stalin by Khrushchev in February, 1956, and the revelation of widespread anti-Semitism throughout the Soviet Union, the domestic communist organization was split into divergent views which extended from the rank-and-file membership to the top leadership. Recognizing the potential offered by this situation, we attempted to perpetuate this dissension since to do so would tend to prevent the CP from concerted action in furtherance of their conspiratorial activities.

Several techniques have been utilized to accomplish our objectives. As an example, we have briefed carefully selected informants in the largest CP districts to engage in controversial discussions around such issues as Soviet intervention in the Hungarian revolution and the cult of Stalin, as well as to be critical of certain leadership actions, both locally and nationally. Acrimonious debates ensued, suspicions were aroused, and jealousies fomented.

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

Honorable Robert Cutler

In addition, we resorted to anonymous mailings to active CP members, otherwise inaccessible, who might be affected by anticommunist material. These mailings were directed principally to those who had serious doubts regarding the competence of Party leaders and their ability to carry out the stated aims of the organization and concerning whom defection was considered a distinct possibility. When suitable anticommunist material was unavailable for the purpose, we conducted research and prepared documents to meet our immediate requirements.

In recent months we have received indications of tangible accomplishments achieved by this program in the nature of disillusionment and defection among Party members and increased factionalism at all levels of the organization. The program itself has created consternation within the CP. Party leaders are unable to determine whether these operations are Government inspired or represent activities of dissident elements inside or outside the Party.

As a matter of information, there is enclosed one copy each of two pamphlets prepared by this Bureau and utilized under this program in connection with anonymous mailings. These documents have been particularly effective. To illustrate the degree of concern of the Party leadership, the most recent development is noteworthy.

THIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN EXCISED AS IT COULD
IDENTIFY INFORMANTS PREVIOUSLY COVENANT OF
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (2)

~~SECRET~~

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 8, 1958

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

MDR-16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/02

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~SECRET~~

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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As a matter of information, there is enclosed one copy each of two pamphlets prepared by this Bureau and utilized under this program in connection with anonymous mailings. These documents have been particularly effective. To illustrate the degree of concern of the Party leadership, the most recent development is noteworthy.

*THIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN EXCISED AS IT COULD
IDENTIFY INFORMANTS PROVIDING COVERAGE OF
FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.*

The above data is also being made available to the Honorable Robert Cutler at the White House for the information of the President.

Enclosures (2)

~~TOP SECRET~~

January 10, 1961

Honorable Dean Rusk
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

My dear Mr. Rusk:

Enclosed for your information is a summary memorandum setting forth the over-all activities of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA) and its threat to the internal security of the United States. This memorandum clearly reveals the CPUSA as part of the international communist conspiracy and the Party's complete domination by and subservience to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Our responsibilities in the internal security field and our counterattack against the CPUSA are also set out in this memorandum. Because of the nature of some of the material contained in the enclosure, it is requested that its contents be afforded careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis.

Sincerely yours,

SENT UNDER SIGNATURE

OF DIRECTOR, FBI

Enclosure

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure

Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

January 10, 1961

Honorable Robert F. Kennedy
Room 3143
Department of Justice Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2 ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

Enclosed for your information is a summary memorandum setting forth the over-all activities of the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA) and its threat to the internal security of the United States. This memorandum clearly reveals the CPUSA as part of the international communist conspiracy and the Party's complete domination by and subservience to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Our responsibilities in the internal security field and our counterattack against the CPUSA are also set out in this memorandum. Because of the nature of some of the material contained in the enclosure, it is requested that its contents be afforded careful security and its use restricted to a need-to-know basis.

A copy of this letter and a copy of its attachment are being furnished to the Honorable Byron R. White. The information in the attachment is also being furnished to the Honorable Dean Rusk.

Sincerely,

SENT UNDER SIGNATURE
OF DIRECTOR, FBI

Enclosure

1 - Honorable Byron R. White (Enclosure)

~~TOP SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~TOP SECRET~~

January 10, 1961

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

THE THREAT

The Communist Party, USA (CPUSA) presents a greater menace to the internal security of our Nation today than it ever has since it was first founded in this country in 1919. The dangerousness of the CPUSA cannot be evaluated except in the light of its relationship to the international communist conspiracy and its ties to the Soviet Union. In this regard it is well to note that the rate of progress achieved by the international communist offensive is unparalleled in history. In the past 43 years, it has advanced steadily and surely, never varying its eventual goal of dominating the world, until today its empire extends from East Germany to China. This empire is so vast and sprawling that when night settles on its western frontier, dawn already is breaking on its eastern frontier. This international communist conspiracy controls one-fourth of the land area and approximately one third of the inhabitants of the earth.

The CPUSA is a vital link in this world-wide conspiracy. It utilizes elaborate security measures to conceal its operations while vigorously promoting front groups as well as other concealed outlets in furtherance of its clandestine pursuits. It is completely dominated by and is subservient to the Communist Party (CP) of the Soviet Union. This fact has been made abundantly clear on a number of occasions, some of which are:

*THIS PORTION HAS BEEN EXCISED AS IT
COULD IDENTIFY SENSITIVE SOURCES PROVIDING
INFORMATION CONCERNING CPUSA FUNCTIONARIES*

~~TOP SECRET~~

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure

~~TOP SECRET~~

THIS PORTION HAS BEEN EXCLUDED AS IT COULD
IDENTIFY SENSITIVE SOURCES PROVIDING INFORMATION
CONCERNING CPUSA FUNDING AND TRAVEL ABROAD
BY CPUSA FUNCTIONARIES.

A CP Leader

who attended the Moscow Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties, made a report on this Conference to a meeting of the CPUSA National Executive Committee in New York City on December 18, 1960. She said that "The CPUSA has a prestige which is almost incredible in the socialist countries." At this meeting she said the CP of the Soviet Union is the most wonderful party in the world and that, "I came away with the feeling we are a family. We belong to a great family." She told those members assembled that the comments of the CPUSA are considered of great importance among other communist parties of the world.

In light of the above, it can be readily seen that the seriousness of the domestic threat from a Soviet-dominated CP in the United States is in direct ratio to the world threat posed by its masters in the Soviet Union.

The CPUSA at its 17th National Convention held behind closed doors in New York City in December, 1959, outlined a vigorous program aimed at infiltrating every area of American life. In this respect, *A CP Leader*

declared, "We want to participate in, organize, and lead the broadest of united front movements--on every level--in 1,000 ways, in 10,000 places, on 100,000 issues--if possible, with 180,000,000 people." Included in the principal targets for infiltration are youth, minority groups, Negro organizations, labor unions, mass organizations, education and American politics.

Under the leadership of *Leader*, a Moscow-trained, the Party is driving to increase its membership and influence on the American scene.

- 2 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

FBI RESPONSIBILITIES

Our responsibilities in the internal security field are twofold: (1) to collect intelligence information and disseminate it to appropriate Government agencies and (2) to obtain legally admissible evidence for prosecution under existing Federal statutes.

By Presidential Directive dated September 6, 1939, the FBI was designated as the civilian intelligence agency primarily responsible for protecting the Nation's internal security. Since that date, it has been the FBI's duty to investigate subversion within the United States and to correlate all information relating to America's internal security and disseminate these data to interested Federal agencies. Federal laws within the FBI's jurisdiction aimed primarily at the CPUSA are the Smith Act of 1940, the Internal Security Act of 1950 and the Communist Control Act of 1954.

FBI COUNTERATTACK

The FBI's counterattack against the CPUSA is many-pronged. Some of our more effective programs are: penetration of the Party at all levels with security informants; use of various techniques to keep the Party off balance and disillusion individual communists concerning communist ideology; investigation of every known member of the CPUSA in order to determine whether he should be detained in the event of a national emergency; and gathering evidence to be used in prosecutions of communists and communist organizations.

Through our security informant program, we have infiltrated the CPUSA to such an extent that we are sometimes in a position to know what the Party is going to do before many of its leaders become aware of its plans.

*THIS PORTION HAS BEEN EXCISED AS IT COULD
IDENTIFY SENSITIVE SOURCES PROVIDING INFORMATION
CONCERNING CPUSA FUNDING.*

- 3 -
~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

THIS PORTION HAS BEEN EXCISED AS IT
COULD IDENTIFY SENSITIVE SOURCES
PROVIDING INFORMATION CONCERNING
CPUSA FUNDING AND CONTACTS ABROAD.

As an adjunct to our regular investigative operations, we carry on a carefully planned program of counterattack against the CPUSA which keeps it off balance. Our primary purpose in this program is to bring about disillusionment on the part of individual members which is carried on from both inside and outside the Party organization. In one phase of the program we use more than 50 of our informants who occupy strategic positions inside the Party and who are able to raise controversial issues, increase enmities, engage in justifiable criticisms of Party leaders and Party programs, thereby keeping factionalism alive and preventing the Party leadership from obtaining monolithic unity. In certain instances we have been successful in preventing communists from seizing control of legitimate mass organizations and have discredited others who were secretly operating inside such organizations. For example, during 1959 we were able to prevent the CPUSA from seizing control of the 20,000-member branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Chicago, Illinois.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

We are keeping abreast of the activity of the CPUSA, which is attempting through its programs to infiltrate American institutions and groups and to increase its influence on the American scene, by intensive investigation into every facet of its activity. Over the years we have investigated thousands of individual members of the CPUSA in order to determine whether they might constitute a potential danger to the internal security of the country in time of a national emergency. The results of these investigations are furnished various departments and agencies of the Executive Branch of the Government when information is developed during the course of the investigations of interest to them. The dissemination of this information enables these departments and agencies of the Government to take whatever action is necessary from a policy standpoint as it relates to the security of their operations.

Prosecution has been a major weapon against the CPUSA. The Department of Justice first instituted prosecution against leaders of the CPUSA in New York City in 1948. Since that time prosecution has been instituted against numerous individual communist functionaries, against the CPUSA as an organization, against communist front organizations and against labor unions controlled and dominated by communist elements. The primary evidence in all of these prosecutions was furnished by our security informants. We have made available approximately 100 security informants for testimony in these cases.

The Supreme Court of the United States is presently considering communist cases under the Internal Security Act of 1950 and the Smith Act of 1940. As was expected, CPUSA functionaries have indicated the Party will go underground if a decision is rendered against them by the Supreme Court. Should this occur, we will, of course, through our informants, attempt to go underground with them and thus keep advised of their activities and whereabouts.

NOTE FOR YELLOW:

Excised { Above information is being made available to Attorney General designated by Robert W. Kennedy and Deputy Attorney General designated by Byron D'Amico so that they will be cognizant of the threat of the CPUSA to the internal security of the United States.

This communication is being classified "Top Secret" because it discusses some of our most delicate operations.

- 5 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The Attorney General

September 2, 1965

Director, FBI

* ~~PERMITTING AND DISRUPTION~~
~~OF KLAN ORGANIZATIONS~~
RACIAL MATTERS

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

As you know, this Bureau has solved a number of cases involving racial violence in the South. In this regard, public attention particularly was focused on the FBI's role in the solution of the brutal murders of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, Lieutenant Colonel Lemuel A. Penn, and the three civil rights workers in Mississippi. However, we have achieved a number of other tangible accomplishments, most of which are not publicly known, and I thought you might be interested in them.

At the present time, for example, nearly (two thousand) of our informants and sources are being operated to obtain up-to-date intelligence data concerning racial matters which we disseminate on a continuing basis. Of these, (77%) have been developed in just the past year--an average of more than (two each day) for every day in the past twelve months.

Particularly significant has been the high-level penetration we have achieved of Klan organizations. At the present time, there are 14 Klan groups in existence. We have penetrated every one of them through informants and currently are operating informants in top-level positions of leadership in seven of them.

Through such coverage, much valuable information relating to a variety of cases of violence and planned violence in the civil rights field has been obtained. Just recently, for example, an informant secured and furnished to us the weapon used in a civil rights shooting incident in North Carolina. Another informant provided the information which led to the recovery of a large volume of hand grenades, ammunition, dynamite, and other explosives which had been stolen from Fort McClellan in Alabama. Still another strategically placed informant enabled us to identify the klansmen responsible for the bombing of two automobiles and a Negro mortuary in New Bern, North Carolina.

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure

Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~SECRET~~

The Attorney General

The solution to the series of bombings and burnings of some 20 to 25 homes in the McComb, Mississippi, area last year similarly was based on information supplied by one of our informants.

Equally important, and something of which the public is totally unaware, is the extent to which we have been able to forestall violence in certain racially explosive areas. In one southern state, for example, the governor, on one occasion, expressed his great concern and fear of an outbreak of racial violence because of the tense situation. *THIS PORTION HAS*

BEEN DELETED TO PROTECT IDENTITY OF INFORMANT.

As a result, we have been successful to date in holding Klan violence in the entire state to an absolute minimum.

We also are seizing every opportunity to disrupt the activities of Klan organizations. Typical is the manner in which we exposed and thwarted a "kick back" scheme a Klan group was using in one southern state to help finance its activities. One member of the group was selling insurance to other Klan members and would deposit a generous portion of the premium refunds in the Klan treasury. As a result of action we took, the insurance company learned of the scheme and cancelled all the policies held by Klan members, thereby cutting off a sizable source of revenue which had been used to finance Klan activities.

I have furnished these examples to illustrate to you the approach this Bureau is taking to meet the challenge of racial lawlessness in certain areas today.

The above information has also been furnished to Honorable Marvin Watson, Special Assistant to the President.

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

September 2, 1965

Honorable Marvin Watson
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

MDR-16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EAH
ON 10/26/08

Dear Mr. Watson:

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~~GROUP 1~~

~~Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification~~

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

~~SECRET~~

Honorable Marvin Watson

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I have furnished these examples to illustrate to the President the approach this Bureau is taking to meet the challenge of racial lawlessness in certain areas today and want him to know of our determination to press forward in this vein even more vigorously in the future in line with his determination to establish a peaceful and prosperous society in this Nation.

Sincerely yours,

*SENT UNDER SIGNATURE
OF DIRECTOR, FBI*

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

September 3, 1965

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2ALM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

MEMORANDUM FOR

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Re: Your memorandum of September 2,
regarding penetration and disruption
of Klan Organizations

I have been aware in a general way of the accomplishments of the Bureau in the area of Klan penetration, but I appreciate having the benefit of detailed information on this subject, and I hope you will continue to keep me up to date on it.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the development of your informant system in the Klan organizations and on the results you have obtained through it. It is unfortunate that the value of these activities would in most cases be lost if too extensive publicity were given to them; however, perhaps at some point it may be possible to place these achievements on the public record, so that the Bureau can receive its due credit.

Nicholas deB. Katzenbach
Attorney General

Nicholas deB. Katzenbach

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure
Criminal Sanctions

~~SECRET~~

The Attorney General

December 19, 1967

Director, FBI

KU KLUX KLAN INVESTIGATIONS
FBI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MDR 116
DECLASSIFIED BY SP 2 ALM EHL
ON 10/26/00

Pursuant to your conversation with Mr. C. D. DeLoach of this Bureau concerning FBI coverage and penetration of the Ku Klux Klan, we have prepared the attached memorandum. Also attached are copies of my statements and publications regarding the Ku Klux Klan in the United States and the FBI's role in investigating Klan matters.

While some of the information contained in the attached memorandum is already a matter of public record, there are matters dealing with extremely sensitive operations of this Bureau and it is suggested that this be handled on a strict need-to-know basis.

Enclosures - 7

1 - The Deputy Attorney General (Enclosures - 7)

Attached copies of statements and publications regarding the Ku Klux Klan in the United States and the FBI's role in investigating Klan matters consist of:

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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Unauthorized Disclosure
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

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The Attorney General

NOTE CONTINUED:

(1) "The Resurgent Klan," by J. Edgar Hoover--
Reprint from July, 1966, American Bar Association Journal.

(2) "The FBI's Secret War," Remarks of
Senator Karl Mundt before U. S. Senate, January 14, 1966--
reprint from 1/14/66 "Congressional Record."

(3) Page 28 of 1967 FBI Annual Report--Deals with
Klan investigations.

(4) Portion of Director's Appropriations Testimony,
2/16/67, dealing with Klan-type investigations.

(5) Remarks of Hon. George W. Grider of Tennessee
dealing with investigation of Klan--taken from "Congressional
Record," 5/3/65.

(6) Remarks of Hon. George W. Grider of Tennessee
dealing with investigations of Klan--taken from "Congressional
Record," 5/4/65.

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December 19, 1967

KU KLUX KLAN INVESTIGATIONS
FBI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BACKGROUND

MDR 16
DECLASSIFIED BY SP2AKM/EHL
ON 10/26/00

Historically, the problem of the Ku Klux Klan in the United States has existed since the days of Reconstruction following the Civil War. The Invisible Empire is well known for its terrorist, nightriding activities and has been responsible since its inception for numerous racial atrocities throughout the country. The Klan reached its peak during the 1920s when it claimed millions of members and it became almost defunct during World War II. In 1954, with the historic Supreme Court decision regarding desegregation of public schools, it became revitalized. In 1964, with the passage of civil rights legislation by the Congress, the Klan recruited thousands of persons who feared the rise of the Negro and the threat to the "Southern way of life."

The Klan has usually been located in the South although there have been attempts to organize it in the North, Midwest, and far West. The Klan attracts individuals in the rural areas who are poorly educated with limited incomes. The Klan exploits the fears, hatred, and ignorance of people who feel they are threatened by the Negro, the Jew, the Catholic, and the immigrant.

PRESENT STATUS

Presently there are 14 Klan organizations under investigation with a membership of approximately 14,000. The largest of these groups, the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, with Headquarters in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, has an estimated membership of about 10,000.

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Group 1

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downgrading and

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

Since 1964 Klan membership has declined in Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana and increased in North and South Carolina and Virginia. The North Carolina Klan has the largest membership of any state in the Union under the leadership of

The most secretive and vicious Klan organization in recent years has been the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi under the leadership of

of Laurel, Mississippi, who was recently convicted in connection with the murder of.

FBI RESPONSIBILITY

This Bureau has a three-fold purpose in investigating the Ku Klux Klan and individuals associated with Klan organizations. First, we investigate violations of Federal law committed by the Klan with the view toward prosecution in Federal court. Second, we conduct intelligence investigations with the view toward infiltrating the Ku Klux Klan with informants, neutralizing it as a terrorist organization, and deterring violence. Third, we provide the Department with the results of our investigations for possible designation of Klan organizations under Executive Order 10450.

MAJOR CASES

Murder of Three Civil Rights Workers

In June, 1964, three civil rights workers were murdered in Neshoba County, Mississippi, setting off an intensive FBI investigation. In October, 1967, 7 of 18 defendants were convicted in Federal court in Meridian, Mississippi, for violation of the victims' civil rights. An 8th defendant pleaded guilty and a mistrial was declared as to three other defendants. Our investigations revealed that there was a broad Ku Klux Klan plot behind the abduction and murder of the victims.

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

Klan informants were used as witnesses in this trial and they unfolded a story of Klan violence and terrorism rarely presented in any court.

Murder of Vernon Dahmer

In January, 1966, Vernon F. Dahmer, a leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, died as a result of wounds received when his home was burned and shot into by the Ku Klux Klan. Twelve klansmen have been indicted by the Federal Grand Jury and the case is presently pending in United States District Court at Hattiesburg. FBI informants were instrumental in determining in the early stages of the investigation that and the members of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of Mississippi were responsible for Dahmer's death.

Murder of Lemuel Penn

In July, 1964, Lemuel Penn, an Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel and Negro educator from Washington, D. C., was killed by shotgun blasts near Colbert, Georgia. An exhaustive investigation by this Bureau resulted in the arrest of four members of the Ku Klux Klan. Informants also played a major role in this case. In October, 1964, a Federal Grand Jury returned an indictment charging six men, including the four arrested for Penn's murder, with conspiracy to injure, oppress, and threaten to intimidate Negro citizens in the free exercise of their Constitutional rights. Two of the defendants were convicted and four were acquitted.

Murder of Viola Liuzzo

In March, 1965, Mrs. Viola Liuzzo was killed by gun blasts near Selma, Alabama, and three members of the Ku Klux

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

Klan were arrested and charged with her slaying. Gary Thomas Rowe, who subsequently testified against these defendants, was present at the time Mrs. Liuzzo was murdered. This case dramatically emphasized our penetration of the Klan when it was publically disclosed that Rowe was an FBI informant. The three defendants were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury and convicted in Federal court for conspiracy.

McComb, Mississippi, Bombings

From June through September, 1964, a series of bombings occurred in McComb, Mississippi. After intensive FBI investigation, nine members of the Ku Klux Klan were arrested and charged with bombing homes and churches at McComb. These nine klansmen entered pleas of guilty and nolo contendere in local court. FBI informants were instrumental in uncovering the plot and identifying suspects.

New Bern, North Carolina, Bombings

In early 1965, a strategically placed informant enabled us to identify klansmen responsible for the bombing of two automobiles and a Negro mortuary in New Bern, North Carolina. This information was turned over to local authorities. Three defendants were convicted in State court.

Bogalusa Injunction

In Bogalusa, Louisiana, during the height of the racial disorder in that community in 1965, FBI investigation led to the obtaining of an injunction against the Anti-communist Christian Association also known as Original Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. This was a major deterrent to further Klan violence in that community.

Klan Terrorism, Rowan and Cabarrus Counties, North Carolina

In July, 1967, FBI investigations led to the arrest and indictment of 12 men in Rowan County, North Carolina.

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- 4 -

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

for numerous acts of racial intimidation and violence.

INFORMANTS

Informant coverage in Klan groups has been an important part of our program and our coverage is aimed at both high-level and low-level penetration. For example, recently the United Klans of America held its National Klomvocation in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, to elect members of the Imperial Board.

Penetration Deleted. As it can identify sources.

Perhaps one of the most difficult of our assignments is the penetration of Klan "action squads." An action squad is a small group of klansmen, within a klavern or acting independently, whose purpose is to commit acts of terrorism and violence. We have penetrated a number of these groups and among the most notorious are

Deleted. As it identifies

klaverns and release of information could jeopardize sources.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Florida

Through an intensive effort by Bureau Agents in our Florida offices handling intelligence information and Bureau informants within the Florida Ku Klux Klan, we were able to effect the removal of _____ of the United Klans of America, Realm of Florida. Through Bureau informants, _____ misuse of Klan funds; mismanagement of Klan affairs; and, personal misconduct were brought to the attention of the Klan rank and file and _____ was deposed as
A Leader There has been no replacement and the Florida

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Kl Klux Klan Investigations

Klan has been slowly deteriorating. We have found that by the removal of top Klan officers and provoking scandal within the state Klan organization through our informants, the Klan in a particular area can be rendered ineffective.

is attempting to reorganize the Florida Klan and we are following it closely.

Mississippi

Through our informant operations, ^{A LEADER of} the United Klans of America, the State of Mississippi has been removed and discredited. Further attempts by the United Klans to expand in Mississippi have been deterred.

Tennessee

In the early stages of Klan growth in the State of Tennessee, we were able to develop as a Bureau informant ^{A member} of the United Klans of America, Realm of Tennessee. Through this source we were able to control the expansion of the Klan. More importantly, we were able to discourage violence throughout the state. The Klan in Tennessee has not expanded to the proportions it has in other states and its lack of success can be attributed to our highly placed informant.

Louisiana

In March of 1966, high-level informants in the Louisiana Klan were responsible for the defeat of notoriously militant incumbent Klan leaders. Subsequently,

^{A LEADER} of the United Klans of America, removed ^{A KLAN OFFICIAL} and to this date, ^{THIS OFFICIAL} has not been replaced. This action contributed to the disorganization and disruption of the United Klans in Louisiana.

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

Illinois

Attempts were made to organize the Ku Klux Klan in the States of Illinois and Wisconsin. Deleted as IDENTIFIERS

A STATE KLAN OFFICIAL

In August, 1966, a series of bombings occurred in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Through a high-level Klan source of our Chicago Office we learned that A KLAN OFFICIAL was responsible for these bombings. The Department ruled that there was no prosecutable Federal violation. However, we pursued an intelligence-type investigation and furnished local authorities in Milwaukee with complete information coming from our Chicago Klan informants. THIS OFFICIAL was subsequently convicted and sentenced to 15 years. The result has been that the Klan in Illinois and Wisconsin has not been able to effectively organize and its expansion in the Midwest has been halted.

Virginia

In the Fall of 1965 the United Klans of America began an intensive organizational effort in the State of Virginia. We immediately began an all-out effort to penetrate the Virginia Klan, contain its growth, and deter violence. Working closely with local and state authorities we were able to disseminate information on contemplated cross burnings. Several arrests were made based on FBI information furnished to local police and in one situation, a klansman was sentenced to three years in local court for burning crosses, a felony under Virginia law. While conducting official investigations, two Agents of this Bureau were assaulted by klansmen who were later convicted on charges of Assault of a Federal Officer and Obstruction of Justice in Federal Court in Richmond, Virginia.

In December, 1966, the Special Agent in Charge of our Richmond Office contacted Virginia Governor Mills Godwin to intensify cooperation between the Virginia State Police

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

and the FBI in Klan matters. We provided the Governor with information regarding Klan activities in his state. As a result, Governor Godwin pressed for more effective enforcement of Virginia cross burning laws, and publically repudiated the Ku Klux Klan. Shortly after the Governor's public repudiation, the Klan attempted to retaliate and we learned of plans to burn crosses in the City of Richmond in defiance of the Governor. We furnished this data to local authorities who arrested five klansmen, thus seriously dampening Klan enthusiasm for such projects.

In May, 1966, we learned of Klan plans to "arrange an accident" for a civil rights worker working in the State of Virginia. We advised and local authorities of the plot against her life and alerted our informants to follow the plot closely. To this date, the Klan has taken no action against. This is just one of many examples of our notifying authorities and intended victims of racial violence in order that they could take appropriate protective measures.

LIAISON WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES

When we receive intelligence information concerning violations of local laws such as cross burnings, bombings, or shootings, we notify local authorities. For example, in April of 1966, the Louisiana Klan planned to burn crosses throughout the state. We furnished this data to local authorities and arrests were effected thus deterring further acts of harassment, intimidation, and violence. This is another example of incidents which are handled in our day-to-day contacts with local police.

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

KLAN INFILTRATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

We are constantly alert for information concerning klansmen who become members of local and state police agencies and Klan attempts to infiltrate law enforcement. Law enforcement agencies have always been a prime target of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1964, we furnished information to Governor Paul Johnson of Mississippi concerning klansmen who were members of the Mississippi Highway Patrol. These men were subsequently fired. Since that time relations have greatly improved, rendering more effective the fair exercise of local law enforcement responsibilities in Mississippi. It has been part of our established policy to notify the head of the law enforcement agency involved of any member of his organization who has been sworn into the Ku Klux Klan. In addition, the Governor of the state is notified.

ACQUISITION OF WEAPONS AND DYNAMITE OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

As part of our investigation of Klan groups, we determine the extent to which they are acquiring and stockpiling weapons, ammunition, and dynamite. During our investigations we always endeavor to determine the numbers and types of weapons and the amount of dynamite possessed by klansmen. In 1964, for example,

, was arrested by FBI Agents and local authorities for possession of dynamite which, according to our Klan sources, he intended to use for bombing purposes.

If it is determined that illegal weapons such as automatic machine guns, illegal rifles and shotguns, are being held by klansmen, appropriate investigations under the National and/or Federal Firearms Act are instituted.

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Ku Klux Klan Investigations

INTERVIEWS OF KLANSMEN

One of the greatest attractions for klansmen is the alleged cloak of secrecy which surrounds their Klan membership. We have found that a program of selective interviews of klansmen, where they are made aware of our knowledge of their Klan affiliation, has done much to cause disillusionment of the members and disruption of the organization. In some instances klansmen volunteer information about the organization and its activities. These interviews also put us in a position to assess each member with regard to his potential as an informant. Although our Agents in conducting their interviews are frequently met with hostility and threats by militant klansmen, our Klan interview program has been most effective in deterring violence and developing informants.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On December 7, 1967, an informant of our Mobile Division learned of Klan plans to burn crosses in Montgomery, Alabama. This information was disseminated to appropriate local authorities in an effort to effect arrests during the commission of these illegal acts.

Only within the last week an informant of our Jackson Office obtained information concerning possession of 105 sticks of dynamite by

This information was given to local authorities who arrested and confiscated the dynamite. was charged with illegal possession of dynamite, a felony in the State of Mississippi.

The Attorney General

September 17, 1969

Director, FBI

INVESTIGATION OF KLAN ORGANIZATIONS
KLAN RITUALS (KLAN)

MDR 16
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/26/00 BY SP2 ALM/EHL

Reference is made to my communication of June 13, 1969, concerning the strength of the Ku Klux Klan. (NOT PERTINENT)

I thought you would be interested in learning of the significant progress we have recently made in our investigation of the Ku Klux Klan. During the last several months, and while various national and state leaders of the United Klans of America remain in prison, we have attempted to negate the activities of the temporary leaders of the Ku Klux Klan.

By the careful use and instruction of selected racial informants we have been able to initiate a split within the United Klans of America in North Carolina. This split was evidenced by a Klan rally held in Concord, North Carolina, on November 15, 1969. Approximately 150 Klan membership cards were tacked to a cross and burned to signify this breach.

We will continue to give full attention to our responsibilities in an effort to accomplish the maximum possible neutralization of the Klan.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

1 - Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division

1 - Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division

This document is prepared in response to your request and is not for dissemination outside your Committee. It is to be used in official proceedings by your Committee and is not to be released to unauthorized personnel without the express approval of the FBI.